



# NEWS RELEASE

Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska  
**Joe W. Stecher**

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July 7, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the FBI announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:** On July 6, 2007, Derrick Bass of Winnebago, Nebraska entered his guilty plea to a Superseding Indictment charging him with manslaughter and use of a weapon during a crime of violence. Sentencing has been set for September 28, 2009 before United States District Court Judge Laurie Smith Camp.

During the early morning hours of July 8, 2008, Bass got into an argument with his brother, Marcus Bass, at his mother's residence. When Marcus Bass would not leave the residence as demanded by defendant Bass, Bass went to his room and retrieved a 9mm handgun and a knife. A scuffle between the Bass brothers ensued which ended with Marcus Bass being shot in the abdomen. Although Marcus Bass was airlifted to a Sioux City hospital for emergency surgery, he ultimately died of his wounds on July 18, 2008.

Bass had been charged in the original indictment with assault with a dangerous weapon, assault resulting in serious bodily injury, and use of a weapon during a crime of violence. That indictment was superseded after the death of Marcus Bass to charge manslaughter and use of a weapon during a crime of violence.

**Name of Defendant:** Derrick Bass

**AKA:**

**Age:** 24

**City of residence:** Winnebago, Nebraska

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Manslaughter in violation of 18 U.S.C. §1112, and use of a weapon during a crime of violence in violation of 18 U.S.C. §924(c). The manslaughter charge is punishable by 15 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and three years of supervised

release. The use of a weapon charge carries a sentence of not less than ten years to be served consecutive to the term to be imposed on the manslaughter charge.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Winnebgo, Nebraska

**Location of Arrest:** Winnebago, Nebraska

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:**

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:**

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** July 9, 2009

**Federal Arrest Date:**

**Date Complaint Issued:** 7/9/08

**Indictment Returned Date:** 7/16/2008 with Superseding Indictment filed 5/21/09

**Initial Appearance Date:** 7/14/08

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** 7/06/09

**Sentencing Date:**

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** Sentencing 9/29/09

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** Hon. FA Gossett

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** held without bond

**In Continuous Custody Since:** 7/09/08

**Assigned District Court Judge:** Hon. Laurie Smith Camp

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** DRS